

steadily fought its way thru difficulties, overcome obstacles, and heroically endured trials. The Pittsburg church has never turned a deaf ear to any appeals that have been made by the general brotherhood; it has helped the college, the publishing house, our national missions, district missions, and in fact every good work. The present pastor, Brother Darling has been doing good work, and Pittsburg is now a promising field for the Brethren church.

Brother Cassel thinks no "sane man" will look to the twentieth century for true statesmanship. Well, well, it would sound very awkward should we express our own opinion in the matter, but we take courage in the fact that we are not altogether alone in expecting from this century the greatest statesmanship the world has ever known. It is a trifle amusing to hear Brother Cassel argue that human progress, so far as the physical is concerned, has about reached its limit. At the close of this century the people then living will look back over one hundred years of history and note developments along scientific lines compared with which the achievements of the present are as the works of a little child compared with that of a full grown man. When Professor Morse presented his proposition to Congress to stretch a wire from Washington to Baltimore and send intelligent messages from one place to another, a certain member of that august body ironically proposed to extend the line to the moon! Perhaps that congressman together with many others who are not congressmen, and including Professor Morse himself, would be greatly surprised, could they know, that before this century closes there will be communication between this world and some of the planets. We have but a taste of what will be, and arguing from the achievements of the last century, it is both sane and reasonable to believe that this twentieth century upon which we have now entered will give to the world what the nineteenth never dreamed of, and of which it has had but a mere taste. If at the beginning of the nineteenth century some one with a prophetic vision would have made the announcement as to what would be at the close of the century he would have been pronounced a fit subject for the insane asylum; and if to-day some one had the prophetic vision sufficiently developed to pierce the future, down thru the vista of the years even to the close of the century, announce what will be, he would become the laughing stock of the people. But we have digressed; the article by Brother Cassel is both hopeful and helpful; he is looking for glorious times to come, in fact more glorious than we dare to hope for, and what is more he does not expect to wait for their coming as long as we do. However, according to his reckoning they will come in a different way, but what matters it. Whichever way, it will be the Lord's way, and all who are prepared shall alike enjoy them when they do come.

Quiet Observer

It is painful to note the gloomy outlook that many good people are taking at the dawn of the twentieth century, a century which I think has been ushered in with the most flattering prospects that ever attended the advent of any similar epoch. I do not understand how the pessimist brings himself to his sad beliefs. The century that just closed was the best of the nineteen that elapsed since Jesus came to live among men on the earth. It is with a hopeful aspect that the twentieth century opens. Considering the marvelous material development of the nineteenth century, one is made optimistic. But far exceeding this is the moral betterment of the world.

Let us reflect that at the opening of the nineteenth century missionary work was but a dream. The work has increased until to-day the gospel has been carried to the farthest lands and nations. The Christian spirit rules in the hearts of more

men and women than ever before. Did you ever stop to think of the thousands of good deeds that are done daily in the name of Jesus? of the sweet ministrations, the kindly words, the benevolent acts and the helpful deeds that are given for Christ's sake?

Do you remember that not so long as one hundred years ago life and property were not respected as they are today? When a ship was wrecked its passengers, its crew, and its freight became the possessions of the people upon whose shores the ill-fated vessel was cast. Now the leading nations of the world not only honor life and property, but hold it sacred. They yearly spend thousands of dollars and employ hundreds of men to protect, defend and even seek the lost.

Count the hospitals, the orphanages, the homes for the infirm and the aged that Christianity has constructed within this century. Nineteen hundred years ago the wicked Herod slew the precious babes of Bethlehem and there was not in all the world a voice raised in resentment. There was not a single state or institution to demand justice. Several weeks ago a boy was stolen from his home in the city of Omaha, Neb., and was returned without any hurt. This whole nation has risen to defend the home that was wronged and will not be satisfied until the deed is avenged. No labor is spared in the great effort made to punish the men who perpetrated the crime. The heart of the world is beating more tenderly; the moral sentiment of men is purer and stronger.

After all, the world is growing better. Life is richer, fuller and sweeter than it was in the "good old times" to which the pessimists love to refer. It may be only a fancy, but it is a belief of mine that sunshine in the heart makes the world sunny to one's view. The world needs people with sympathetic hearts and smiling faces. It needs songs, not sighs.

"Once, out of all the grief and anguish of my heart,

I wrote a little song and put my pent up passion in its art;

And the great world never heeded this soulful human groan,

For it bore a burden infinitely heavy of its own.

Once, out of all the joy and happiness within my breast,

I wrote a little song and blithely sent it on its quest;

And the great world, with its infinitely many joys divine,

Still found room and instant welcome for this little song of Mine."

Literary Notes

Several years ago when Mr. and Mrs. Stanford were traveling over the United States to secure ideas in starting The Leland Stanford Junior University, they were made the butt for many jests, both good-humored and ill-humored. The wealth of the bluff old pioneer has created, largely under the later management and generous help of Mrs. Stanford, a beautiful university that is the pride of California. Sara K. Bolton, the well known biographer, writes regarding the gifts of Mrs. Leland Stanford and her University work in the January *Delineator*.

The *New York World* will issue an elaborate Twentieth Century Souvenir Number on December 30. It is designed to illustrate the great progress in newspaper making and will present the greatest list of special contributors ever appearing in any issue of any newspaper. The *World* takes special pleasure in announcing that included in this list are signed articles exclusively for this number from Grover Cleveland, Emile Zola, Camille Flammarion, Joseph Jefferson, M. Coquelin, Sarah Bernhardt, Richard Mansfield, Cardinal Rampolla, Secretary of State to the Pope; Cardinal Satolli, ex-Papal delegate to the United States; fifteen other cardinals, Prof. Briggs, Bish-

op Andrews, Carolus Duran, Lady Jeune, Queen Wilhelmina, Secretary of the Navy Long, Gen. Miles, Gen. Corban, Admiral Highborn, Sir Robert Ball, Edward Everett Hall, Andrew Lang, Justin McCarthy, Sir Norman Lockyer, Maurice Maeterlinck, George Bernard Shaw, Dr. Schweninger, Dr. Laponi, body physician to the pope, and many others equally prominent. The number will be illustrated in colors and half-tones. Altho a large sum has been expended in collecting these articles, the number will be presented free with every copy of the *Sunday World* of Dec. 30. The number will be well worth preserving, and as the edition will be limited, to insure getting a copy file an advance order with the newsdealer or mail five cents in stamps to *The World* publication office.

Ex-President Cleveland is writing for *The Saturday Evening Post* a series of strong articles which will appear in the magazine during the winter months. Some of these papers will deal with political affairs, and others with the personal problems of young men. They will be Mr. Cleveland's first utterances in any magazine on the questions of the day since he left the White House.

Mr. Cleveland's opening paper, which is to appear in *The Saturday Evening Post* of December 22, discusses in a masterly manner a most important phase of our national politics.

We take the following from an article entitled, "The Outlook of Christianity at the Close of the Century," by Hon. H. K. Carroll, D. D., in the *Homiletic Review*. It voices our sentiments exactly, especially that which refers to Christ as an optimist, for such we verily believe him to have been, notwithstanding the fact that in our own church a veay strong sentiment stands against this interpretation of the signs of the times. Dr. Carroll says, "However it may be, the church, we must remember, has ever been effected by the spirit of successive ages. If it impresses, it is also impressed. It is not always and everywhere precisely the same. Its history show action and reaction, the same as secular history. If it advances too far in one direction, as has often happened, the correction comes in due time. The revival of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries was a mighty movement, one of the mightiest that ever blessed the world; but some of its accompaniments were not salutary. The present may be a period of reaction, to be followed by another revival of apostolic power and fervor. Despair has no place in the Christian's breast. Christ was the greatest of optimists. His spirit is upon His people, and it can not be that He has accompanied His church thru the trying vicissitudes of nineteen centuries to desert it the twentieth. Wherefore let us be of good courage, and expect that a conquering church will go on to other and even greater conquests. Whatever betide, however dark the outlook, two things are certain,—that the future is Christ's, and that He is in present control of all things for His Church."

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